

REMARKS

Claims 19 and 43 have been canceled to overcome indefiniteness rejections as set forth below. Thus, claims 1-18, 20-42 and 44 are currently pending in this application. The specification and drawings have been amended to overcome drawings objections as also set forth below. Sheet 7 of the drawings has been amended to correct a typographical error.

Drawing Objections

The drawings were objected to because they include the following reference signs not mentioned in the description: 34c, 83c, 86a, 86c, 207 and 208. Applicant directs the Examiner's attention to page 20, fifth line from the bottom and page 33, fourth line from the bottom, where reference signs 34c and 86a are found. Regarding reference signs 83c and 86c, the specification has been amended to mention these signs. (See revisions to page 4, paragraph at lines 15-21 and page 21, paragraph at lines 9-12.) With respect to reference signs 207 and 208, enclosed is a marked up version of sheet 11 of the drawings including a proposed revision to FIG. 12, wherein reference signs 207 and 208 have been deleted. Reference signs 107 and 108 have also been deleted as they too are not mentioned in the specification. In view of the proposed drawing revisions, Applicant submits that every reference sign in the drawings now appear in the specification and, accordingly, requests that the drawing objections be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 19 and 42 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner indicates that it is unclear what "independently outputted two picture signals are left and right independent picture signals for affording the parallax" means. Claims 19 and 42 have been canceled.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-4, 6-9, 11-13, 18, 19, 35-37 and 41-44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,570,930 to *Matheson*.

In claim 1, plural entertainment devices are connected via a synchronization signal transmission channel and a status change information transmission channel and the synchronization signals are transmitted from one device to another. *Matheson* does not have a device that corresponds to the synchronization signal transmission channel nor does it disclose that the synchronization signal is transmitted from one device to another.

In column 3, lines 58-64 pointed out by the Examiner as the synchronization signal channel, it is simply described that position data is exchanged between system A and system B for synchronization. Figure 5 is provided for further description of this method of synchronization. Figure 5 shows time intervals for the synchronization. However, *Matheson* does not describe that the synchronization signal is transmitted between the system A and system B. Accordingly, the invention of claim 1 is not disclosed in *Matheson*. Similar to claim 1, each of independent claims 6, 11 and 35 recite the transmission or sending of synchronization signals or information. Accordingly, the invention of these claims is also not disclosed in *Matheson*.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that *Matheson* fails to teach the invention claimed in independent claims 1, 6, 11 and 35. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the rejections of these claims and their respective dependent claims under 35 U.S.C. §102, be reconsidered.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 16, 38 and 39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Matheson*.

Matheson does not suggest that a synchronization signal is transmitted from system A to system B and vice versa, therefore, the subject matter of claims 16, 38 and 39 are not obvious. Furthermore, in view of the foregoing analysis of independent claims 11 and 35 in view of *Matheson*, Applicant believes that the rejections under §103 are rendered moot as dependent claims 16, 38 and 39 depend from allowable independent claims.

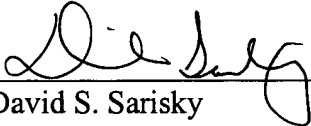
Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 21-34 were allowed. Claims 5, 10, 14-17, 20 and 40 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In view of the analysis set forth above, Applicant believes that claims 5, 10, 14-17, 20 and 40 depend from an allowable base claim.

CONCLUSION

Applicants have made an earnest and bona fide effort to clarify the issues before the Examiner and to place this case in condition for allowance. Therefore, reconsideration and allowance of all of Applicants' claims 1-18, 20-42 and 44 are believed to be in order and a Notice of Allowance to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP



David S. Sarisky
Registration No. 41,288

DSS/mv
Encl: Version with markings to show changes made

Howard Hughes Center
6060 Center Drive, Tenth Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90045
Tel: 310.824.5555
Facsimile: 310.824.9696
Customer No.: 24201

[259920.1]

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION

The paragraph at page 4, lines 15-21 has been replaced with the following:

In the above-described structure, there is produced delay (latency) in transmission time since data such as game process change data transmitted via telephone network 82 are sent via communication modems 83a, 83b, 83c. Thus, it has not been possible to synchronize picture signals (video-out-A, video-out-B, video-out-C) displayed on the display units 10a, 10b, 10c of the game playing machines.

The paragraph at page 20, lines 8-13 has been replaced with the following:

[The] With reference to Fig. 8, the game playing machine 81a (game playing machine A), game playing machine 81b (game playing machine B) and the game playing machine 81c (game playing machine C) are connected over communication cables 82a, 82b, 82c to a multi-tap 88. The multi-tap 88 is used for relaying picture data exchanged between the game playing machines.

The paragraph at page 21, lines 9-12 has been replaced with the following:

The illustrative structure of Fig. 8 is otherwise the same as the above-described structure shown in Fig. 7 and hence the corresponding parts or components, e.g., 86a, 86b, 86c, are depicted by the same reference numerals and are not specifically explained.

IN THE DRAWINGS

Subject to the approval of the Examiner, sheets 7 and 11 of the drawings have been revised as indicated in the enclosed redline drawings.